

## Claims

1. A method of providing signals for a synthetic voice by way of derived voice-representative data, in which the derived data is derived by combination of data representative of first and second voices, the combined data including selected parameters of a formant-type voice synthesiser.
2. A method according to claim 1 in which the synthesiser is a synthesis-by-rule (SbR) system.
3. A method according to claim 1 in which each of the first and second stored data and the derived data includes a plurality of parameters.
4. A method according to claim 3 in which the combination includes interpolation or extrapolation of one or more parameters of the first and second stored data.
5. A method according to claim 4 in which various parameters are interpolated or extrapolated to different extents.
6. A method according to claim 4 in which a plurality of parameters are derived by interpolation or extrapolation of corresponding parameters of a plurality of voices, the ratio of interpolation or extrapolation being different for different parameters.
7. A method according to claim 4 in which the derived data includes a first parameter of value that corresponds to 100% of a first voice and 0% of a second voice, and a second parameter that corresponds to 75% of the first voice and 25% of the second voice.
8. A method according to claim 4 in which the derived data includes a first parameter of value that corresponds to 75% of a first voice and 25% of a second voice, and a second parameter that corresponds to 50% of the first voice and 50% of the second voice.
9. A method according to claim 4 in which the derived data includes parameters interpolated or extrapolated within an acceptable region of a parameter space.



